

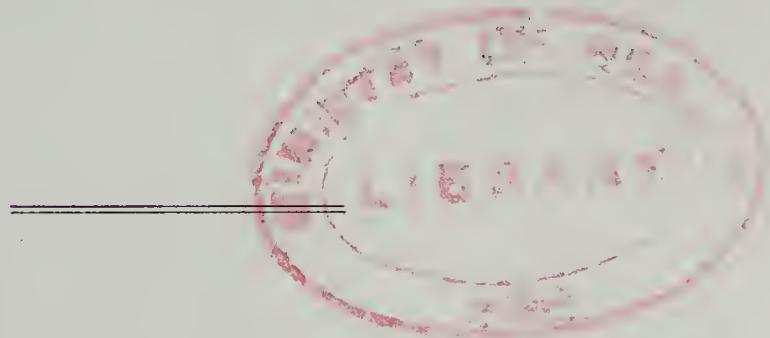
ERLTH
-2 SEP 1948
R. 17

LIBRARY



THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1945.

Birmingham :

Buckler & Webb Ltd., Printers, Church Street.



THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1945.

Birmingham :
Buckler & Webb Ltd., Printers, Church Street.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30149186>

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
AND

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report on the health of the Borough for 1945. This is my 26th and final Report as Medical Officer of Health, and I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks for the unfailing support which has been extended to me by the Council in the performance of my duties.

To the members of those Committees which have been particularly concerned from time to time with the Public Health affairs of the Borough, I would express my appreciation of their courteous consideration of reports and suggestions which it has been my privilege to present.

My term of office has included the interwars period 1920-1939, during which the population of the Borough increased by almost one hundred per cent. and, at the same time the scope of the Public Health Services was greatly expanded.

Before the 1914-18 war, Public Health activities were mainly concerned with environmental conditions, but from 1920 onwards a stronger framework of care for the individual took shape in preventive medicine, as seen in the higher standard of Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Medical Services.

No doubt these, and other Services will be integrated in the new Health Service of the Country and, as I visualise the course of events under the new regime, I would point to the advances in all Public Social Services to which the Smaller Local Authorities have contributed at least their due share. It is now pertinent to ask if this individual initiative and incentive to progress in the personal services, will be lost to the community by centralization and the inevitable increase in bureaucratic control.

By the removal of personal and clinical services from the Smaller Authorities, however, the environmental health services will assume again their rightful place in local affairs, and will receive the due consideration and attention of which they have been long deprived. Clinical services have never fitted easily into preventive medicine.

The statistics and records of the present Report are satisfactory and the mortality rates, and such morbidity rates as are available, would indicate that the standard of the Public Health is not below the average of pre-war years, if other objective evidence to the contrary could be disregarded. There is apparent, indeed, a physical and mental apathy amongst those classes who are exposed to the stresses of daily life, which may be interpreted at present as a lowered resistance to disease, such as tuberculosis of which there is an increase, and which may lay the community open, in the future, to the consequences of severe epidemic disease. The cause of this lowered resistance I believe to be bound up with our nutrition. It is untrue to say that diet is adequate ; its very staleness, sameness and lack of variety alone over a prolonged period, would condemn it.

The increased mortality from heart disease to be noted amongst females in the higher age groups, may afford evidence of the abnormal conditions imposed by food rationing on the housewife.

Less food has been condemned than in recent years, but if greater care were exercised in storage and distribution, more food would be conserved and made available for use.

Shortage of houses remains the greatest social problem, although on the whole its adverse influence on health is probably less than that of food restrictions.

I would mention the generally satisfactory returns of infectious diseases and express the hope that the immunization against whooping cough, which has been practised here during the past three years, may be found as the result of further experience to justify its continuance.

Before closing my Report, I would place on record my recognition of the conscientious services which my staff, professional and clerical have rendered to the Council.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. WRIGHT.

Council House,
Sutton Coldfield.

July, 1946.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.			
Live births :	683	340	343	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.10	
Legitimate	633	313	320			
Illegitimate	50	27	23			
Still-births ...	19	6	13	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	27.07	
Deaths ...	412	197	215	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. R.G. ...	9.71	
Deaths from puerperal causes				... Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.		
Puerperal sepsis ...	...	...	...	I	1.42	
Other maternal causes	...			2	2.85	
Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—						
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	35.14	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	36.33	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	20	
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	75	
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	None	
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	I	
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	None	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) ... ... ... ... ...	...	13,978
Population (estimated R.G. mid-year 1945)—		
For calculation of birth-rate, death-rate and incidence of notifiable diseases) ...	...	42,420
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1945) ...	...	13,154
Rateable Value ... ... ... ... ...	...	£415,679
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	£1,694 12s. 3d.

LOCAL ESTIMATE OF POPULATION OF WARDS AT MID-YEAR, 1945.

Trinity ... ... ... ...	...	4,723
Hill ... ... ... ...	...	7,059
Boldmere (East) ... ... ... ...	...	5,725
Boldmere (West) ... ... ... ...	...	9,446
Wylde Green ... ... ... ...	...	5,771
Maney ... ... ... ...	...	5,788
Walmley ... ... ... ...	...	4,475
Local estimate of population of Borough at mid-year 1945, 42,987		

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF DEATHS ASSIGNABLE TO THE BOROUGH.

ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	197	215
1. Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
8. Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
9. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
10. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
12. Acute inf. encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13. Cancer of buc. cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2
15. Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	11
16. Cancer of other sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	20
17. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	28
19. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	70
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	5
21. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	4
22. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
23. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
24. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
26. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
27. Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
28. Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	—
29. Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
30. Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
31. Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
32. Con. mal. birth inj. infant diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	5
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
34. Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
35. Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6
36. All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	25
Deaths of infants under 1 year.	{	Total	...	...	...	...	13	11
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	12	11
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—
STILLBIRTHS	{	Total	...	...	...	...	6	13
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	13
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—

DISEASE.	All ages									
	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer of buc. cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer of stomach & duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other dis's of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ucer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal & post-abort. sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Con. mal. birth injury, infant diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	1	1	6	2	9	46	54	65	197	11

MORTALITY BY AGE AND SEX. TABLE III.

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	Death rates per 1,000 population (estimated R.G.)
Under 1 year ...	...	13	11	24	0.57
1 and under 2	...	1	1	2	0.05
2 and under 5	...	1	1	2	0.05
5 and under 15	...	6	—	6	0.14
15 and under 25	...	2	3	5	0.12
25 and under 45	...	9	15	24	0.57
45 and under 65	...	46	38	84	1.98
65 and under 75	...	54	60	114	2.69
75 and upwards	...	65	86	151	3.56

TABLE IV.

DEATHS IN WARDS DURING EACH QUARTER.

<i>Wards.</i>	<i>1st quarter</i>	<i>2nd quarter.</i>	<i>3rd quarter.</i>	<i>4th quarter.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	Crude Death Rates per 1,000 population (Local Estimates)
Trinity ...	14	9	12	16	51	10.8
Hill ...	20	14	7	17	58	8.2
Boldmere East	19	18	17	18	72	12.6
Boldmere West	24	12	4	15	55	5.8
Wylde Green...	20	13	14	13	60	10.4
Maney ...	25	20	17	19	81	14.0
Walmley ...	16	7	6	6	35	7.8
Totals ...	138	93	77	104	412	9.6

TABLE V.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
BIRTH RATE ...	13.04	12.98	15.02	14.45	14.30	13.24	15.65	16.13	19.63	16.10
CRUDE DEATH RATE (R.G.)	10.91	11.50	9.46	9.71	11.96	11.17	10.50	10.98	11.26	9.71
ADJUSTED DEATH RATE (R.G.)	10.69	11.27	9.27	9.52	11.72	—	—	—	—	—
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	34.01	46.15	47.62	28.78	34.25	48.21	40.79	37.3	28.81	35.14

Population.

The population at the mid-year 1945 as estimated by the Registrar General is 42,420, as compared with 42,440 for 1944. The corresponding local estimate, based on the number of inhabited dwellings is 42,987. This compares with the local estimate of 43,469 for 1944, a reduction in population accounted for by migration towards the end of hostilities.

Births.

The number of live births assigned to the Borough is 150 less than those for 1944 and the rate is 16.1 as compared with the recent high record of 19.6 in that year.

The still-birth-rate per 1,000 of the population is .45, as compared with .46 for England and Wales and .53 for the Smaller Towns, and the rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is 27 as compared with 33.6 in 1944.

Illegitimate births have increased from 31 in 1944 to 50 in the year under review and the rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) is 71 as compared with 36 in 1944 and an average of 30 for the five pre-war years.

Deaths.

Deaths assigned to the Borough number 412 as compared with 478 in 1944, and for the year under review the crude rate per 1,000 population is 9.71 which compares with 12.3 for the Smaller Towns.

No deaths were recorded from the principal zymotic diseases with the exception of whooping cough (1), and the mortality from respiratory tuberculosis was under half that for 1944. The total of cancer deaths shows a marked reduction on the figure for 1944, namely 75 as against 91 and the mortality rate per 1,000 population is 1.8, which compares with the average of 1.6 for the three pre-war years.

Deaths assigned to heart disease outnumber those under any other listed single cause, and the mortality rate is 2.7, which compares with a similar figure for the average of the three pre-war years. There is a marked preponderance of deaths in females under this head, particularly in the age group over 75 years, attributable to myocardial disease.

Amongst deaths from violence are drowning, 1; burns, 4; and falls, 2.

LIST OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY AT
END OF YEAR.

Medical—

Dr. J. H. Wright	... Whole-time	M.B. D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Service.
Dr. E. Stockwin	... Part-time	M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H.	Assistant Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

Sanitary—

Mr. W. Burton	... Whole-time		Senior Sanitary Inspector
†Mr. C. E. Impett	... Whole-time	A.R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
Mr. N. J. Howard	... Whole-time	Cert. R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector. On Military Service.

Health Visiting Staff—

Miss E. M. Grubb	... Whole-time	S.R.N.	Senior Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Welfare.
*Miss M. Wakelin	... Whole-time	S.R.N. S.C.M.	Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Welfare.
*Miss M. R. Scrivener	... Whole-time	S.R.N. S.C.M.	Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clerical—

Mr. J. W. Perkins	... Whole-time		Clerk. On Military Service.
Miss R. E. Hall	... Whole-time		Clerk.
Mrs. H. Whittaker	... Whole-time (temporary)		Clerk.
Miss G. Collister	... Whole-time (temporary)		Clerk.
Miss B. Beech	... Whole-time (temporary)		Clerk.

†Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

*Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Provision for Maternity.

By arrangement with the Public Assistance Officer, fifty-seven women were admitted for confinement to the Solihull Public Assistance Maternity Unit, 6 to the Emergency Hospital, Nuneaton, and 3 to a Warwickshire Hospital. The Maternity Hospital, Loveday Street, admitted 58 cases from the Area, one of which was referred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Department and the remainder by private practitioners. Sixteen women were also admitted to the maternity block of a Birmingham voluntary hospital.

Private maternity homes in the Borough, registered for 16 beds, provided accommodation for 179 residents of the Borough, and 65 residents were admitted to private nursing homes outside the Borough.

The total number of women resident in the Borough, therefore, whose confinements took place in institutions is 384 or 54.7 of the total births assignable to the Borough.

The private nursing homes in the Borough also provided accommodation for the confinements of 73 non-resident women, in addition to the residents mentioned above, a total for the year of 252.

Home Helps.

This service was continued successfully during the year and the Home Helps attended 102 cases, namely:—normal maternity cases, 68; ante-natal cases, 4; post-natal cases, 3; and other maternal emergencies, 27.

Two Home Helps, Mrs. Harding and Mrs. Butcher resigned and were replaced. Mrs. Harding had given 8 years excellent service, first in a part-time and later in a full-time capacity on the establishment of the service on a full-time basis.

Child Life Protection.

During the year 9 persons were on the register of foster parents and 90 children were fostered. At the end of the year 8 persons were on the register and 89 children were being boarded.

Twenty-one visits were paid by the Visitors for the purpose of supervision and the home conditions and health and well-being of the children were found to be satisfactory at all times.

Orthopaedic and other Treatment.

Two children were referred for treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham, under the Local Authority's Scheme, for the following defects:—1 congenital defect of shoulder and 1 double congenital dislocation of hip.

Eight children were referred to the Children's Hospital for naevus (1); strabismus (2); diseased tonsils (3); phimosis (1); and buphthalmos (1); and one child was admitted to the Sutton Hospital for tonsillectomy.

Two children were placed in the care of the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer and three children were refracted by the Local Authority's Ophthalmic Surgeon.

CLINICS.

ATTENDANCES AT CENTRES. TABLE VI.

Centres	Number of Sessions	CHILDREN.			ANTE-NATAL.	
		First attendances under 1 year	First attendances 1-5 yrs.	Total attendances	First attendances	Total attendances
Holland Street	Infants and Toddlers 42	108	—	1,373 (Infants and Toddlers)	—	—
	Ante-Natal 11	—	—	—	31	118 P.N. 1
Boldmere	Infants and Toddlers 36	152	—	2,212 (Infants and Toddlers)	—	—
	Ante-natal 12	—	—	—	53	205 P.N. 7
Four Oaks	Combined Clinics 26	56	9	745	8	30
Minworth	Combined Clinics 25	25	11	356	12	29
		152	341	62	4,686	104
						390

CONSULTATIONS BY MEDICAL OFFICER. TABLE VII.

Centres.	Number of Clinics.	CHILDREN.			ANTE-NATAL.	
		Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total	Total	
Holland Street	Children ... 22	135	130	265	—	—
	Ante-Natal 11	—	—	—	117 P.N. 1	—
Boldmere	Children ... 32	256	316	572	—	—
	Ante-Natal 12	—	—	—	197 P.N. 5	—
Four Oaks	Combined 24	121	105	226	30	—
Minworth	Combined 20	50	18	68	43	—
		121	562	569	1,131	393

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 203.

Live births notified	...	...	...	...	...	...	510
Still-births notified	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Births transferred inwards—							
Live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	196
Still-births	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Births transferred outwards—							
Live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Still-births	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Health Visitors.

The full complement of three Health Visitors has been maintained during the year with the exception of twelve weeks in February, March and April, during which two only were available. Miss A. R. Taylor left on 31st January to take another appointment and Miss M. R. Scrivener, who was appointed in her place took up duty on 30th April.

The time available for maternity and child welfare visiting duties is the equivalent of $2\frac{3}{5}$ ths of the Health Visitors' full time, the remainder being devoted to administration, etc. A detailed statement of visits is set out below.

Domiciliary Visits by Health Visitors.

First visits to expectant mothers	...	...	159
Total visits to expectant mothers	...	...	372
First visits to children under one year	...	...	612
Total visits to children under one year	...	...	2,419
Total visits to children between the ages of one and five years	...	...	3,481
Visits to boarded-out children	...	...	19
Visits to old persons	...	...	11
Visits for inquiries into still-births	...	...	14
Visits for inquiries into ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	7
Inspection of nursing homes	...	...	8
Special request visits	...	...	236
Unsuccessful visits	...	...	1,728
			8,295
Number of households visited	...	...	6,863

Infant Mortality.

Deaths in infants under one year number 24, and the rate of infant mortality is 35 per 1,000 total live births. This rate is appreciably above that for 1944 (29) and compares with 46 for England and Wales and 43 for the smaller Towns for the year under review. Amongst the causes of death as certified are:— prematurity, 5 ; congenital malformation, birth injury, infant diseases, 10 ; whooping cough, 1 ; digestive diseases, 2 ; and other causes, 3.

Maternal Morbidity and Mortality.

One death is recorded from puerperal infection (post-abortive) and two from other maternal causes. All are deaths transferred from other Areas.

No cases of puerperal infection were notified in the Area.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and Illegitimate Child.

This work has been continued under the arrangements made with the Birmingham Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare, and the Superintendent, Mrs. Hollyoak, reporting on her work in the Borough during the year gives the following statistics:—

Total number of cases resident in Sutton Coldfield brought to notice and supervised	...	...	48
Arrangements made for institutional confinements...			18
Help re affiliation, putative fathers, etc. ...	...	...	16
Married mothers ; help re adoption, etc. ...	...	...	5

Mrs. Hollyoak expresses her appreciation of the help afforded by the establishment of a clinic at the Holland Street Centre.

Attention may be drawn to the increase in the illegitimate birth-rate and the consequent increase in the number of cases dealt with by the Society. The illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births has increased from an average of thirty for the year 1939—1943 to a rate of 73·2 for the year under review.

Care of Premature Infants.

Seven under-weight babies were notified by doctors and midwives during the year, two of whom were born in private houses and five in nursing homes.

The special equipment provided by the Welfare Authority was loaned on two occasions and a Home Help, booked for the confinement was in attendance at one case. Of the babies born in nursing homes, one died during the first 24 hours and one at 6 weeks from pneumonia. The two babies born in private houses have survived.

Infestation.

Seventeen cases of scabies in 11 families were treated by the Health Visitors in the homes throughout the year, figures which indicate a very satisfactory reduction in the incidence of the disease.

Four children and two adults in four families were treated for pediculosis.

Nursing Homes.

Applications for exemption under the Public Health Act, 1936, were received in respect of the Home registered in December, 1932, as the Sutton Coldfield District Nursing Home and Cottage Hospital, and in respect of the premises known as Good Hope, Rectory Road, a branch of the Sutton Hospital not previously registered. These applications were approved by the Council on 25th July, 1945.

No applications for registration were received and no homes were removed from the register other than the above.

Four persons remained on the register at the end of the year in respect of three nursing homes and one maternity home, providing bed accommodation for 24 medical and surgical cases and 16 maternity cases.

Eleven visits of inspection were made during the year and, having regard to difficulties arising out of shortage of nursing and domestic staff, the management of the homes, and particularly of the maternity homes has been admirable.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply of the Area.

This was fully discussed in my Report for 1944, and, with the exception of some limited extensions of the mains, and the replacement of a well by a mains supply there is no change to record for the year under review.

All mains supplies are satisfactory in quality and quantity.				
(a)	Number of houses with direct supply	...	...	12,904
	Number of inhabitants supplied	...	...	41,937
(b)	Number of houses supplied by stand-pipe	...		60
	Number of inhabitants supplied	...	...	230
(c)	Number of houses supplied by communal tap in wash-house	...	...	119
	Number of inhabitants supplied	...	...	450
(d)	Number of private supplies	...	...	63
	Number of dwellings supplied by private supplies	...	...	87
	Number of inhabitants supplied	...	...	269

Mains.

The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and the Birmingham Water Department extended their mains in the Area during the year as follows :—

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS CO.

<i>Area.</i>	<i>Main.</i>	<i>Distance.</i> <i>Yards.</i>
Myring Place, off Rectory Road	3-ins.	115
Tower Road Estate, Four Oaks	3-ins.	36
Tower Road Estate, Four Oaks	4-ins.	1,060
Jordan Road, Four Oaks ...	4-ins.	243
Blackberry Lane, Four Oaks...	4-ins.	193
Wylde Green Road, Walmley	6-ins.	148

BIRMINGHAM WATER DEPARTMENT.

<i>Area.</i>	<i>Mains.</i>	<i>Distance.</i> <i>Yards.</i>
Chester Road Area—Donegal Road	4-ins.	102
Minworth Area—Water Orton Lane	4-ins.	76

Four routine samples of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company's supply were submitted by the Local Authority for chemical examination, and all were reported to be of excellent quality and suitable for use as public supplies.

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Company of 35 samples taken at three points in the Borough and all were found to be " free from coliform bacteria." The Engineer-in-Chief informs me that samples are so examined at approximately monthly intervals.

Wells.

Samples from two wells examined bacteriologically gave counts which indicate that the waters were safe for domestic use at the time of sampling.

Samples from four wells were examined chemically and the results in two showed dangerous pollution. As the result of informal action one of the latter wells has been replaced by mains at the time of reporting and the other is under reconstruction.

One well supplying four cottages was replaced by the mains during the year under review.

Your Committee have had under consideration the unsatisfactory supplies from private wells in the Area from Signal Hayes Road to the Grove and Wishaw. The shallow wells in this Area have been shown to be polluted from time to time and, in periods of drought, the fall in water levels in the wells has threatened the occupiers with a failure of their domestic supplies.

Your Committee are of opinion, therefore, that the present supplies should be replaced and, for this purpose, they are in consultation with the South Staffordshire Water Company with a view to the preparation of a scheme for the extension of a mains supply to the area affected, under the provisions of the Rural Water Act.

Pool and Stream Water.

The results of a series of bacteriological analyses of a pool and stream water in the Park, carried out during the year indicate that the use of the water in its raw state, if not actually dangerous, is at least undesirable for any domestic purpose including bathing. Chemical analyses have confirmed this view.

Having regard to the quality (and distribution) of the bacterial flora it may fairly be assumed that the pollution is derived to a considerable extent from decaying vegetation, but, on the other hand, the consistently high ratio of organisms growing at 37°C. indicates that the bacterial content of the water is by no means entirely made up of harmless saprophytes, and, added to this there is the clear evidence of the presence of bacteria of intestinal origin.

A sample of water, taken from a pool in the Park, which had been accidentally polluted by an overflow from the sewerage system, was examined bacteriologically in February, and the results indicate that natural purification was taking place without risk of serious nuisance from decomposition.

A sample from a stream previously polluted by sewage from a Military Establishment was examined bacteriologically and chemically. The results show high bacterial counts but the chemical analysis was satisfactory.

Swimming Baths.

Five samples of water from the Keepers Pool baths were examined bacteriologically during the bathing season. The quantitative and qualitative counts in two are not consistent with efficient chlorination.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Borough Surveyor, Mr. T. Porter, reports that five connections to the foul sewers have been made during the year under review, one at Chester Road North (to replace a dumbwell), one in Jockey Road, one at Coleshill Road and two in Whitehouse Common Road.

No connections were made to the surface water sewers.

Public Cleansing.

The street orderly carts have again been used for the cleansing of streets.

7,078 tons, 19 cwts., 2 qrs. of house refuse were collected during the year, of which 2,916 tons, 10 cwts. were tipped. The refuse destructor was closed for repairs and renewals from 31st August to the 1st November.

Infectious Diseases.

Cases removed to Hospital :—

Scarlet fever	12
Diphtheria	10
Whooping cough	1
Cerebro spinal fever	1
Typhoid	1
Dysentery	8
Erysipelas	1
Small-pox	1
Bedding stoved or destroyed	35
Houses disinfected.....	102
Private schools disinfected	1

Slaughter Houses.

Number on register	9
Notices served (statutory or informal)	—

Dairies and Milkshops.

Number of cowkeepers and dairymen registered	84
Number of dairies on the register.....	57
Number of retail purveyors.....	52

Registered as :—

Producers	10
Selling milk in shops from unsealed containers.....	1
Selling milk from carts.....	51
Informal notices served.....	14
Informal notices complied with	14
Number of producers (including designated milk).....	40
Number of farms	41
Informal notices served.....	10
Informal notices complied with	10

Cowsheds.

Number in use	93
Number not in use.....	9
Number of cows kept.....	662
Actual accommodation.....	907

(Notices served — see under Producers).

Designated Milk.

Number of accredited producers in the Borough	14
Number retailing accredited milk in the Borough.....	6
Number of T.T. producers in the Borough.....	2
Number retailing T.T. milk in the Borough	11
Number pasteurising milk in the Borough	—
Number retailing pasteurised milk in the Borough	13

Non-Designated Milk.

Number of producers in the Borough	24
Number of retailers in the Borough.....	52

Factory Bakehouses with power.

Number on register	14
Informal notices served.....	4
Informal notices complied with	4

Factory Bakehouses without Power.

Number on register	3
Notices served (statutory or informal)	—

Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc. Food and Drugs Act, 1938. (Section 14).

Number on register	63
Informal notices served.....	7
Informal notices complied with	7

Factories with Power (excluding Bakehouses).

Number on register	87
Informal notices served.....	12
Informal notices complied with	12

Factories without Power (excluding Bakehouses).

Number on register	46
Notices served (statutory or informal)	—

Factory Outworkers.

Number on register	5
Notices served (statutory or informal)	—

Visits.

Fish-frying	14
Slaughterhouses	1
Cowsheds	855
Dairies and milkshops	92
Cowshed dairies	390
Restaurants and kitchens	56
Manufacturers of preserved foods	70
Food stalls, Sutton Park	11
Public houses	39
Factories with power (excluding bakehouses)	115
Factories without power (excluding bakehouses)	56
Bakehouses with power	69
Bakehouses without power	10
Outworkers	7
Infectious diseases	528
Schools—	
Elementary	84
Private	9
Secondary	1
Shops	86
Bug infestation	80
Rat infestation	140
Dirty houses	151
Condemned houses	88
Refuse complaints	157
Factory smoke observations	17
Camping sites	13
Picture houses	12
Theatres	2
Public conveniences	49
Rivers and streams	81
Bathing pools	25
Stagnant pools	15
Pig sties	26
Tips	80
Animals improperly kept	15
Railway conveniences	3
Inspection of wells	54
New drainage work	75
Cesspools	37
On complaint of general nuisance	309
Flats and basements	63
Under Public Health or Housing Acts	2937
Under Housing Consolidated Regulations (included in above)	349
Salvage boxes	9
Pig food bins	12

Visits—continued.

Pleasure fairs	3
Stables.....	23
Meat inspection	416
Overcrowding.....	17
Privies.....	41
Sewers	12
Ants, cockroaches, etc.....	61
Unsound food.....	194
Evacuee houses	58
Rams	3
Floods	1
Hospitals.....	32
Mortuary	23
Ashpits	14
Ambulance depot	6
Swimming baths	12
Destructor	11
Housing sites	10
Military camps	4
School cooking centre	12
Public halls.....	1

Summary of defects remedied and nuisances abated.

Dwelling houses.

Drains repaired	14
Choked drains cleared	44
Plaster repaired.....	105
Walls pointed and repaired	28
Damp walls treated	31
Dangerous gable-end walls rebuilt	3
Ashbins renewed	75
Roofs repaired	112
Windows and doors repaired	80
W.C. tanks repaired or new ones provided.....	30
Broken W.C. pans renewed	29
Choked W.C. drains cleared.....	32
W.C.'s limewashed.....	1
W.C. pans, joints repaired.....	15
W.C. seats, walls, floors and roofs repaired.....	24
W.C.'s condemned.....	2
New W.C.'s erected	2
Vent and soil pipes repaired.....	10
Furnaces repaired.....	17
Chimneys repaired.....	28

Burst pipes repaired	25
Waste pipes repaired or renewed.....	23
Spouting and down pipes repaired	65
Dirty yards, drains and W.C.s cleansed.....	30
Houses cleansed.....	40
Outhouse roofs and walls repaired	10
Rainwater cisterns abolished or repaired	4
Floors repaired	41
Sink channel and paving repairs.....	12
Defective sinks repaired	8
Defective sinks renewed	4
Sculleries limewashed	8
Grates and ranges repaired	23
New ranges provided.....	1
Bedding destroyed or cleansed.....	6
Overcrowding abated	1
Tipping nuisance remedied	1
Tipping abolished.....	1
Inspection chamber covers provided and fixed.....	1
Inspection chambers repaired.....	2
Animals improperly kept.....	1
Pump and ram repairs	3
Refuse removal	6
Removal of manure	2
Overflowing cesspools	3
New drains laid	19
Drinking wells cleansed and repaired	1
Air-bricks fixed under floors.....	15
Choked waste pipes cleared.....	1
Damp courses uncovered	4
Covers provided to drinking wells	1
Pig bins and refuse bins insanitary.....	2
New inspection chambers provided.....	3
New pumps provided to drinking wells	1

Elementary Schools.

Choked W.C.s cleared and cleansed.....	3
Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	4
Urinals floor and drain repairs	2
Flooded stoke-holds emptied	1
Choked drains cleared	1
Ashbins provided	2
Gulley covers provided.....	2
Paving repairs	1

Private Schools.

Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	3
Ashbins provided	2

Secondary Schools.

Defects	None
---------------	------

Dairy Farms—Cowsheds.

Cowsheds limewashed	12
Floors and channels cleansed	8
Fold yards cleansed	1
Cowshed roof and wall repairs	3
Drinking bowl repairs	3

Dairy Farms—Dairies.

Dairy roof and floor repairs	2
Dairies limewashed	4
Dairies improperly used	1
Churns found unfit for use	3

Retail Purveyors and Milkshops.

Windows and floors repaired	3
Dairies improperly used	1
Dairies limewashed	6
Removal of manure	2
Dirty utensils cleansed.....	1
Dirty yards cleansed.....	1
Animals improperly kept	1

Slaughterhouses. No defects.

Factory Bakehouses with Power.

Bakehouses and bread stores limewashed	3
Dirty W.C. pans, floors and seats cleansed.....	2
W.C.s limewashed.....	2
Floor and roof repairs	2

Factory Bakehouses without Power.

Defective ashbins	2
Dirty yards cleansed.....	1
Refuse removed.....	2

Factories with Power (excluding Bakehouses).

W.C. seats repaired	3
Rat infestation	8
Removal of refuse.....	1
Dirty W.C.s and urinals cleansed.....	10
W.C.s limewashed	8
Cisterns repaired or renewed	3
Urinals limewashed	2

Factories without Power (excluding Bakehouses).

W.C.s limewashed.....	3
Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	2

Shops—Retail.

Ashbins provided	2
Refuse removed.....	3
Dirty yards and drains cleared.....	2
Choked drains cleared	1
W.C.s cleansed	1
W.C. walls and roofs repaired	2
Basement rooms and passages limewashed.....	4
Vent pipes repaired	1
Rat infestation	21

Restaurants and Hotel Kitchens (Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 13).

Refuse removed.....	1
Ashbins renewed	3
Rat infestation	3

Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc. (Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14).

Stores limewashed and plastered.....	4
Choked drains cleared	1
Accumulation of refuse removed from yard	1
Utensils cleansed	1
Floors repaired	1
Burst water pipes repaired	1

Public Houses.

Burst water pipes repaired	1
Dirty urinals and W.C.s cleansed.....	2
Refuse removed.....	1
Pig swill removed	1
Dirty floors cleansed.....	1
Choked W.C.s cleared and cleansed.....	2
Dirty W.C.s and urinals cleansed.....	11
Broken W.C. pans renewed	1

Picture Houses.

Dirty urinals cleansed	2
Dirty W.C.s cleansed.....	3
Chimneys repaired.....	1

Amusement Fairs.

Defects	None
---------------	------

Schools.

Elementary. The Sanitary Inspectors paid 84 visits during the year and a number of minor defects of sanitation were discovered and repaired. These are recorded in the Sanitary Inspector's statement.

Private and Secondary. There are approximately 17 private schools in the Borough at three of which boarders are received. Inspections are made from time to time and the sanitary and hygienic conditions found at these establishments are, for the most part satisfactory.

Housing.

House property, and particularly older house property which, before the war could be cheaply and expeditiously repaired is no longer kept to the standard requisite for preservation, and unless better provision is made for repairs concurrently with new building, many houses, now serviceable, will become from lack of attention uninhabitable and incapable of reconditioning.

The housing statistics for the year reveal that some 36% of houses inspected were not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. This figure has risen steadily during the war years and compares with an approximate average figure of 15% for the pre-war years.

Another unfavourable feature of the housing statistics is the material increase recorded in statutory overcrowding.

Housing Statistics, 1945.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1112
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	2937
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.....	337
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	349
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	None
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	399

2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....	358
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring repairs	11
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners.....	11
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners.....	None
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring defects to be remedied	30
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners.....	30
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	None
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	None
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	None
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	None
4.	Housing Act, 1936 Part IV. Overcrowding :—	
(a) (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....	6

SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Dairy Premises. Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Eighty-four cowkeepers and dairy men were on the registers during the year as compared with 90 in 1944, and 57 premises were registered as compared with 60 in the previous year. Producers numbered 40 a reduction of two (in respect of undesignated milk) on the figure for 1944.

No statutory action has been taken under the Public Health Act or the Order during the year and all informal notices, numbering 24, were complied with. The defects remedied are set out in the Sanitary Inspector's statement, page 21, the more important of which relate to the cleansing and limewashing of cowsheds and dairy premises.

Milk (Pasteurised).

Forty-seven samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for bacterial count and in eleven the results did not comply with the standard required by the regulations.

Thirty-seven of the samples were taken from elementary school supplies of which seven were unsatisfactory, one from a private school supply which was satisfactory, and the remaining nine from carts, etc., four of which were unsatisfactory.

The counts in three of the unsatisfactory samples ran into millions and apparently arose from accidental contamination subsequent to the heating process.

Milk (other than pasteurised).

Eighty-five samples of milk (other than pasteurised) were submitted for bacterial count, etc., during the year, a figure which includes 27 samples produced outside the Borough. The results indicate that the proportion of samples produced in the Borough which may be regarded as of a reasonable standard of bacterial purity is in the region of 70%. The percentage of clean samples of milk produced outside the Borough is approximately the same, but it should be noted that the latter include "pool" supplies which had been invariably heat treated, and from the above results, therefore, no useful or valid comparison can be drawn in respect of cleanliness as between milk produced in and out of the Borough. The results indicate in fact, that as a series of heated supplies the samples of milk delivered from the "pool" were unsatisfactory.

Tubercle Infected Milk.

Biological tests for living tubercle bacilli were carried out on milk produced from ten herds in the Borough and two of the supplies, one accredited and one undesignated, were reported as positive, a proportion which must be regarded as alarming.

Having in mind the effect which milk borne tuberculosis as well as other milk borne diseases can have on consumers, particularly children, it is clear that the Local Sanitary Authority's present powers of control over milk supplies are inadequate, and that the existing law is too cumbersome to afford the immediate protection which the citizen has the right to demand.

Unsound Food.

In my Report for 1944 I drew attention to the disturbing waste of food from decomposition and other causes, much of which could have been avoided by reasonable care in storage and distribution. In the year under review it is satisfactory to record that, although there is still need for improvement, there has been a considerable reduction in the quantities of foods condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

The present quantities of the principal foods condemned, which compare with those for 1944 shown in brackets, are as follows:—tinned meats, 167 lbs. (360 lbs.) ; fresh meat, 308 lbs. (1,420 lbs.) ; wet fish, 97 st. (126 st.) ; eggs, 4,625 (649) ; tinned milk, 88 (485).

It may be noted that the reasons for seizure or surrender for the most part were associated with storage or distribution. In the case of canned foods damage to containers was to such an extent the predominant cause as to amount to evidence of carelessness, and amongst unpreserved foods most of the fresh meat and

wet fish was condemned on account of decomposition. Large quantities of shell eggs became unfit through staleness.

It has been the practice during the war years to return, at the request of the Ministry of Food, to the Ministry of Food salvage depot certain condemned food stuffs with a view to their being reclaimed and used for purposes other than for human consumption. The risks involved in such a practice, are not justifiable and it is proposed to deal in future with all condemned food in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The detection and elimination of these unfit food stuffs, and the consequent protection of the inhabitants against the dire consequences of their consumption does credit to the vigilance and energy with which the Food Inspector carries out his duties.

FOOD CERTIFIED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Meat.

1 tin	Maxim beef	1-lb.	Destroyed.	Containers blown, damaged and/or leaking.
16 tins	Stewed steak	16-lbs.	„	
2 „	Ready meals	2-lbs.	„	
90 „	Pork luncheon meat	90-lbs.	„	
1 tin	Pork sausage meat	2-lbs.	„	
8 tins	Chopped ham	17-lbs.	„	
6 „	Prem	6-lbs.	„	
2 „	Mor	1-lb.	„	
9 „	Kam	7-lbs.	„	
4 „	Pork loaf	24-lbs.	„	
1 tin	Party loaf	1-lb.	„	

Fish.

165 tins	Pilchards	Destroyed.	Do.
17 „	Mackerel	...	...	...	„
15 „	Salmon	...	...	...	„
9 „	Herrings	...	...	...	„
142 „	Sardines	...	...	...	„
5 „	Crawfish	...	...	...	„
7 „	Shrimps	...	...	...	„

Milk.

52 tins	Evaporated milk	Destroyed.	Do.
14 „	Skimmed milk	...	...	...	„
9 „	Full cream milk	...	...	...	„
13 „	Household (dried) milk	...	...	...	„

Fruit.

27 tins	Red plums	...	...	...	„	Do.
9 „	Blackberries	...	...	...	„	Do.

Preserves.

41-lbs.	Orange marmalade	...	Destroyed.	Containers blown damaged and/or leaking.
20-lbs.	Grapefruit marmalade	...	„	
4-lbs.	Honey	...	„	
168-lbs.	Plum jam	...	„	
1-lb.	Strawberry jam	...	„	

Vegetables.

77	tins Beans	Destroyed.	Do.
37	„ Peas	...	...	„
4	„ Carrots	...	...	„
8	„ Mixed vegetables	...	...	„

Soup.

11	tins Soup	Destroyed.
----	-----------	-----	-----	------------

Meat.

Boneless beef	...	...	112-lbs.	*Returned.	Bone taint.
Bullock's head and tongue	...	...	36-lbs.	Destroyed.	Tuberculosis.
Pork	...	...	46-lbs.	„	Dropsy.
Half-head pork	...	...	4-lbs.	„	Do.
Bacon	...	...	70-lbs.	„	Unsound.
Beef sausages	...	...	11-lbs.	„	Do.
Pork sausages	...	...	29-lbs.	„	Do.

Fish (wet).

Pollen	...	...	6 stone	Destroyed.	Decomposition.
Cod	...	...	34-stone	„	Do.
Plaice	...	...	10-stone	„	Do.
Herrings	...	...	45-stone	„	Do.
Hake	...	...	2-stone	„	Do.

Shell Fish.

Lobsters	25-lbs.	Destroyed.	Decomposition.
----------	-----	-----	---------	------------	----------------

Miscellaneous.

Eggs	...	...	875	Destroyed.	Bad and stale.
			3750	*Returned.	
Oranges	...	...	51-lbs.	Destroyed.	Unsound.
Tea	...	...	9-lbs.	„	Mildew.
Dates	...	...	61-lbs.	Destroyed	Mite.
			1401 lbs.	*Returned.	Fermentation.
Sultanas	...	...	30-lbs.	Destroyed.	Mould.
Prunes	...	...	25-lbs.	„	Do.
Barley Flakes	...	...	1-cwt.	*Returned.	Mite.
Rolled Oats	...	...	10-cwts.	„	Do.

Miscellaneous—cont'd.

Dried eggs	...	...	42-lbs.	Destroyed.	Unsound.
Dessert powder	...	...	9-lbs.	„	Do.
Butter	...	...	4-lbs.	„	Rancid.
Steak pies	...	...	4 doz.	Destroyed.	Mould.
Biscuits	...	...	32-lbs.	„	Unsound.
Meat paste	...	...	3 jars	„	Blown.
Fish paste	...	...	1 jar	„	Do.
Toffees...	...	...	7 lbs.	„	Disinfectant contamination.
Mint chips	...	...	6-lbs.	„	Broken glass.

*Returned to Ministry of Food Salvage Organisation.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED BY THE OWNER UNDER LICENCE FROM
THE MINISTRY OF FOOD.

Number of animals known to have been slaughtered during the year :

Pigs ... 399.

Number of animals inspected during the year : Pigs ... 366.

Number of visits made for purpose of inspection : 447.

Statement of diseased or unfit conditions found :

Tuberculosis.

10 pigs' heads 108-lbs.

(2.73% of carcases found to be affected with tuberculosis).

Other Causes.

1 pig's liver (cirrhosis)	...	...	5-lbs.
1 pig's liver (echinococcus)	...	...	5-lbs.
1 pig's liver (hydatid cyst)	...	...	5-lbs.
1 pig's pluck (congestion)	...	...	8-lbs.
3 sets pigs' lungs (pneumonia)	...	...	15-lbs.

(1.64% of carcases found to be partially unfit due to causes other than tuberculosis).

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The Chief Sampling Officer, Warwickshire County Council submits the following report of his work in the Borough for the year under review. It should be noted that in a prosecution taken for milk sophistication the rather unusual penalty of imprisonment for this offence was inflicted.

Samples taken in the Borough under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (Report of Chief Sampling Officer).

Milk ...	...	...	...	80
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	69
				<hr/>
			149	<hr/>

All these samples proved to be satisfactory except the following :—

S.345. *Milk*, adulterated with 14.3% of water (official).
S.346. *Milk*, adulterated with 17.1% of water (official).
S.349. *Milk*, adulterated with 14.4% of water (official).
S.360. *Milk*, adulterated with 11.7% of water (official).

These were taken from the same producer-retailer on two dates. Proceedings were taken in each case. The defendant was sent to one month's imprisonment (2nd division) in each case. There were previous convictions against him for similar offences both in the Borough and elsewhere.

S.371. *Milk*, deficient of 6% of fat (official).

As this deficiency may have been caused by not keeping the milk properly mixed when serving, he was cautioned. Samples taken since have been satisfactory.

S.374. *Milk*, adulterated with 16.7% of water (official).

Proceedings were taken in this case. The defendant stated that the adulteration must have been caused by the bottling plant not having been sufficiently drained. He was ordered to pay £2 9s. od. costs.

I.53. *Basilicon Ointment* (Informal).

The composition of this ointment was not in accordance with the formula shewn on the lid of the tin. A further sample was satisfactory.

I.57. *Head and Nerve Mixture* (Informal).

No formula given as required by the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. As this may have been in stock before it was necessary to comply with the Act, further samples will be taken from more recent stock.

I.62. *Yorkshire Pudding and Pancake Mixture* (Informal).

This was stated by the County Analyst to be only a very poor quality self-raising flour. Further samples will be taken.

I.79. *Sponge Pudding Mixture* (Informal). "No eggs or sugar required."

This sample did not contain any eggs and both sugar and saccharine were absent. The purchaser, however, was directed to add margarine, milk and treacle or jam or marmalade, and advised that currants, sultanas, or ginger might be added.

There are various mixtures, so called, which appear to be coloured self-raising flour (flavoured) only.

S.487. *Phensic Tablets* (official) deficient of 18% of phenacetin.

J. E. PRESTON,
Chief Sampling Officer,
Warwickshire County Council.

Restaurants and Hotel Kitchens, etc.

(Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 13).

These premises, although not subject to registration are listed and supervised, for which purpose 56 visits were paid during the year.

Manufacture of Preserved Foods, etc.

(Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14).

The registration and control of these premises and the processes of manufacture are essential for the protection of the consumer from the effects of dangerous food contamination which is liable to arise in such trades. A high standard of sanitation and protective cleanliness will reduce not only the general risks of contamination from dirty utensils, etc., but, by impressing on the workers the need for personal care, will obviate the greater danger from the human carrier of pathogenic intestinal organisms.

Sixty-three premises were on the register at the end of the year as compared with 64 in 1944. Seventy visits were paid for inspection and nine sanitary defects were found and remedied as compared with 31 in the previous year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

With the exception of measles and whooping cough, each of which shows an increase as compared with 1944, the incidence of infectious diseases can be regarded as very satisfactory. Excluding measles and whooping cough the total notifications amount to 124, to which total scarlet fever contributes almost one-third.

A case notified as smallpox was removed to hospital where the diagnosis was revised to "septic rash." It is regretted that, to allay doubt a more precise alternative diagnosis was not made.

The corrected notifications of scarlet fever number little more than one-third of those for 1944, and the disease was of the usual mild type. Over 50% of the notifications were in the age group 5—10 years and less than 13% in the pre-school groups.

The case rate is .87 per 1,000 civilian population as compared with 1.89 for England and Wales, and the mortality was nil.

The incidence of diphtheria although higher than in the previous year remains very satisfactory and no deaths were assigned to the disease.

Three of the eight verified cases occurred in the age group 5—10 years and two in the age group 35—45 years. One case only was notified in a pre-school age group.

A child of 8 years who contracted the disease had been inoculated at the Public Health Clinic in 1942, and in two other cases it was stated that the children had been inoculated but in neither case could this be confirmed.

Seventy-two throat and nose swabs were examined and one only was reported as positive. Eleven 8,000 units phials of anti-toxin were issued to practitioners, free of charge.

Diphtheria Immunization.

The number of children 0—14 years in the Borough artificially immunized at 31st December, 1945, is 80% of the total child population at these ages. The percentages at ages 0—4 years and 5—14 years are respectively 59 and 92. The latter figures compare with 49% and 85% at the end of 1944.

During the year under review 613 children had complete courses of inoculations; 534 in the age group 0—4 years and 79 in the age group 5—14 years.

In pursuance of the present policy adopted in the Area the majority of inoculations are carried out at 12—15 months and, of the total of 534 inoculations at 0—4 years all but 15 were in the age group 12—24 months. As a guide to the progress of immunization, therefore, this figure can be usefully expressed each year as a percentage of the births in the previous year. This percentage for 1945, excluding 140 evacuees and other children who left the district is approximately 75.

These immunization returns are very satisfactory, but it is more important to place on record that in the period 1929—1945, during which immunization has been carried out in the Borough no deaths from diphtheria have been recorded in the Borough in inoculated persons. The number of cases who had received full courses of inoculation notified over the same period is 10.

Under the provisions of the Ministry of Health Circular 193/45, dated 14th November, 1945, the responsibility for the inoculation of young children has been transferred from the Sanitary Authorities to the Welfare Authorities, and the duty of persuading the individual parent to give consent has been placed with the Health Visitor. In so far as this Authority is concerned the change of responsibility involves no change in administrative procedure, as Health Visitors have included in their duties the advising of mothers on immunization for a number of years. The cost of immunization, however, will fall on the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in future.

A single case of typhoid fever was notified on 16th July in a youth aged 17 years. He had attended a technical school in the Birmingham Area where he had had a meal at the canteen daily and a meal weekly at a British restaurant, but no particular article of diet could be named as a likely source of infection. The sanitary conditions in the home were satisfactory.

The case rate is .02 as compared with .01 for England and Wales and the smaller Towns.

Eleven cases of dysentery were notified but the diagnosis of one was revised in hospital to enteritis. The cases were sporadic and no common source of infection was found, nor was there any evidence of spread from case to case. A contaminated water supply, pork and eggs were named as suspected vehicles of infection.

Cases investigated bacteriologically proved to be of the sonne type.

An epidemic of measles, in which 359 cases were notified, spread throughout the Borough during the first quarter of the year. Over 50% of the cases were notified in the school age group 5—10 years and the elementary schools most affected were Walmley and Boldmere Infants.

In the age groups 0—4 years inclusive the cases notified form slightly under 50% of the total, the figures increasing in each age group up to 5 years.

The case rate is 8.46 as compared with 11.6 for England and Wales and 11.1 for the smaller Towns. The mortality rate is nil.

A rise in the incidence of whooping cough was recorded in the Autumn. The distribution of the disease in age groups followed closely that of measles, with the exception that in the pre-school groups, a higher proportion of the cases occurred at ages 0—1 year.

The case rate is 2.43 as compared with 1.64 for England and Wales and 1.47 for the smaller Towns. The mortality rate is .02 per 1,000 population as compared with .02 for England and Wales and .01 for the smaller Towns.

Whooping Cough Immunization.

Protection by inoculation of children against whooping cough, a disease which is without doubt one of the more serious of childhood, was commenced in September, 1942. The views expressed as to efficiency of immunization have been contradictory and in at least one experimental campaign in a closed community, the protection afforded was apparently negligible. The results obtained here, therefore, may be of interest and, in my opinion, are such as to fully justify the provision of the service for those who desire it.

It is not claimed that the number immunized has influenced appreciably the incidence of the disease in the Borough, but I think that the protection given by immunization can be shown to be well worth while.

Year.	Number inoculated.	Number of cases notified by doctors and otherwise.	Number of notified cases who had been inoculated.
1942 (Sept.)	23	25	1
1943	170	66	1
1944	199	11	1
1945	148	104	17
TOTALS ...	540	206	20

Parents were requested on the inoculation certificate to report cases who had been inoculated, and all inoculated cases notified by doctors and parents, numbering 20 were made the subject of a special investigation in the autumn of 1945, after an outbreak of the disease in the Borough.

It may be mentioned that the diagnosis of whooping cough in each case investigated had been confirmed by a doctor.

The investigation disclosed that of the 20 inoculated cases which had contracted the disease two only had all the symptoms of a moderately severe attack; three suffered from short spasms of cough and occasional vomiting but were unaffected in appetite and general health; and 15 gave no signs of any distress or malaise whatever.

It is significant that in one family where an uninoculated school child contracted the disease the inoculated baby escaped with the mildest symptoms.

Twenty-five cases of pneumonia were notified during the year as compared with thirty-one in 1944. Two of the cases were classed as influenzal. The notification rate is .59 as compared

with .87 for England and Wales and .72 for the smaller Towns.

Notifications of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis number 23 as against 26 in 1944, the figures being approximately equal for males (11) and females (12). The highest incidence was in the age groups 20—35 years and in this group the disease was more prevalent amongst females than males.

The case rate for the respiratory form is .54 as compared with .61 for 1944.

Notifications of the non-respiratory forms number three as compared with nine in 1944. It is noteworthy that all these cases occurred in the adult age groups 25—45 years, the organs affected being glands (1), abdomen (2).

Three cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis were notified and in one the diagnosis was revised. The two verified cases occurred in children of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years and 4 years. Both were removed to hospital and recovered. The case rate for the disease (.05) equals the rate for England and Wales.

Five cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified, of which three were treated in the out-patient department of the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital and two privately. It is not known how many, if any, of the cases showed evidence of the virulence associated with the gonococcus, or were diagnosed as such bacteriologically, but four have recovered with no damage to the eyes. One left the district and no information is available as to the final result.

It is satisfactory to record that for the second year in succession no cases of puerperal pyrexia have been notified in the Borough. One transfer death, however, is recorded from post abortive infection.

TABLE VIII.

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	4	6	—	—	—	1	—
25	...	3	4	—	1	1	—	—
35	...	—	1	1	1	1	2	—
45	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	...	3	—	—	—	1	1	—
65 and upwards	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	...	11	12	1	2	4	4	—

TABLE IX.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1945.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.												DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.												
	All Ages	under 1	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 65	65 over	All Ages	under 1	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 65	65 over
Smallpox ...	37	—	—	1	1	—	2	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet fever ...	8	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Typhoid ...	25	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	14	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis :—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Respiratory ...	359	12	24	36	35	38	189	13	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-Respiratory ...	103	12	16	10	10	11	40	2	—	—	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles ...	10	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping cough ...	586	30	44	47	48	54	256	21	13	36	13	14	10	39	17	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	

QUARTERLY NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES. TABLE X.

Disease.		1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.
Scarlet fever	...	10	8	9	10	37
Diphtheria	...	2	2	2	2	8
Typhoid	...	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	...	11	3	7	4	25
Erysipelas	...	6	1	1	2	10
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	1	—	1	—	2
Ophthalmia neonatorum		—	1	3	1	5
Tuberculosis :—						
Respiratory	...	3	4	10	6	23
Non-respiratory	...	1	1	1	—	3
Measles	...	323	34	—	2	359
Whooping cough	...	9	11	44	39	103
Dysentery	...	2	5	3	—	10
TOTALS	...	368	70	82	66	586

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN WARDS. TABLE XI.

WARD.	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Cerebro-spinal fever	Ophthalmia neonatorum	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	Measles	Whooping cough	Dysentery	TOTALS
Trinity	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	26	5	5	43
Hill	6	4	—	6	2	—	—	4	—	29	6	2	59
Boldmere East...	4	1	1	3	2	—	—	1	—	26	11	1	50
Boldmere West ...	13	1	—	10	2	1	2	5	1	95	31	1	162
Wylde Green	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	3	1	71	11	—	91
Maney	8	2	—	—	1	1	1	5	1	20	17	—	56
Walmley	2	—	—	1	3	—	1	3	—	92	22	1	125
TOTAL	37	8	1	25	10	2	5	23	3	359	103	10	586

INDEX.

	—	pages
Amusement fairs ...	...	19, 22
Bakehouses ...	...	17, 18, 21
Births ...	...	3, 7
Camping sites ...	...	18
Cerebro spinal meningitis ...	...	35
Child Life Protection ...	...	9
Cinemas ...	...	18, 22
Cowsheds ...	...	17, 18, 21
Dairies and milk shops ...	...	16, 21, 25
Deaths ...	...	3, 7
Deaths, causes of ...	...	4
,, causes of and ages at	...	5
,, in Wards ...	...	6
Diphtheria ...	...	32
,, immunization	...	32, 33
Drainage and sewerage ...	...	16
Dysentery ...	...	33
Factories ...	...	17, 18, 21
,, (excluding bakehouses)	...	17, 18, 21, 22
Food and Drugs Act, report of Sampling Officer		29, 30, 31
Food, unsound ...	...	26, 27, 28, 29
Health Visitors ...	...	11
Health Visitors, summary of domiciliary visits		11
Home Helps ...	...	9
Housing ...	...	23
,, statistics ...	...	23, 24, 25
Illegitimate children, care of	...	12
Infant mortality ...	...	12
Infectious diseases ...	...	16, 18, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35
Infectious diseases, notifications of	...	36
,, ,, quarterly notification of	...	37
,, ,, in Wards	...	37
Infestation ...	...	13, 18
Maternity and Child Welfare ...	...	8—13
,, ,, ,, centres	...	10
,, ,, ,, provision for	...	8, 9
Maternal mortality ...	...	12
Measles ...	...	31, 33
Meat, inspected and condemned	...	27, 28, 29

						pages.
Milk, other then pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	26
,, pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	25
,, tubercle infected	...	...	...	...	...	26
Mortality by age and sex	...	...	...	...	...	6
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	19, 20, 21, 22
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	13
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	35
Other foods	...	...	...	...	...	29
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	23, 24, 25
Orthopaedic and other treatment	...	...	...	...	...	9
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	34, 35
Pool and stream water	...	...	...	...	...	15
Population	...	...	...	...	...	3, 7
Population, local estimate	...	...	...	...	...	3
Population in Wards	...	...	...	...	...	3
Premature children, care of	...	...	...	...	...	12
Preserved foods, manufacture of	...	...	...	...	17, 18, 22, 31	
Public cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	16
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	11
Public houses	...	...	...	...	...	18, 22
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	35
Restaurants and kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	22, 31
Retail purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	21
Sanitary circumstances of the Area	...	...	...	...	...	13
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	32
School hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	23
Schools, elementary	...	...	...	...	...	18, 20
,, private	...	...	...	...	...	18, 20
,, secondary	...	...	...	...	...	18, 21
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	22
Slaughter houses	...	...	...	...	...	16, 21
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	31
Statistics of Area	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stream water	...	...	...	...	...	15
Swimming baths	...	...	...	...	...	15
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	35
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	...	33
Vital statistics, extracts from	...	...	...	...	...	3
,, ,, for past ten years	...	...	...	...	...	6
Water, mains	...	...	...	...	...	13, 14
Wells	...	...	...	...	...	14, 15
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	33, 34
,, ,, immunization	...	...	...	...	...	34

